



The Bob Stevens Memorial Scholarship

Entry Information

Introduction & Rules

The Bob Stevens Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an outstanding journalism student who has demonstrated dedication to their school newspaper or yearbook, though is not necessarily planning on majoring in journalism in college. The scholarship amount is \$1000 to be used towards college.

Bob Stevens was a dedicated teacher at Highland Park High School for many years, where he served as the adviser to the Highland Fling, the student newspaper. He was one of the founding members of the GSSPA, and he served as the first president of the organization. After his death, the GSSPA started this scholarship to honor his memory and to help an aspiring journalist who is a student of a GSSPA member.

The scholarship check of \$1500 will be issued after the winner provides the GSSPA with a copy of the first tuition payment to the college where the winner has enrolled.

Applications will be judged by a panel of independent judges, chosen from the many professional journalists employed in New Jersey.

The winner of the award is announced at the Spring Advisers' Conference.

The faculty adviser should choose one student journalist who best qualifies to meet the standards set forth under the headings of Qualifications and Criteria. Nominee and adviser then prepare a portfolio of the student's best work.

Qualifications

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Have at least a 3.0 gpa on a 4.0 scale.
- Have participated in high school journalism for at least two years.
- Only one nominee from each high school.
- The applicant's adviser must be a member of the GSSPA.

Criteria

- Versatility (ability to handle a variety of subject areas with equal ability)
- Responsibility (demonstrate thorough research and ethical reporting)
- Inquisitiveness (ability to seek out and investigate topics of importance to the high school audience and the community)
- Skill (produce quality work adeptly and creatively)
- Only one nominee from each high school.
- The applicant's adviser must be a member of the GSSPA.

Mailing Information

Send all materials in a large envelope to: New Jersey Press Foundation
840 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 305
West Trenton, NJ 08628-1019

Postmark Deadline: February 15.

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Preparing Your Portfolio

- Entry material should not exceed 36 one-sided or 18 two-sided pages. Plastic sheet protectors are acceptable. All letters and transcripts should be opened and included as part of the 36 pages.
- The pages should be inserted into a three-ring binder designed to hold 8-1/2-by-11-inch paper.
- Some ideas to help you get started on the self-analytical evaluation: *How do you feel about journalism? How did you get started in journalism? What have you had to go through to achieve? What have you contributed to journalism? What are your journalism plans for the future?* The evaluation should be long enough for the judges to reach a decision as to your creative qualifications and short enough not to be redundant (and boring).
- Samples of work should be carefully selected. Provide judges with a good cross section of your best work rather than everything ever produced. Date, name of publication and relevance should be on the page with each sample.
- Include samples showing one or more of the following characteristics. They should be grouped according to what they represent, and these groupings should be labeled.
 - a. Skilled and creative use of media content—writing, production, photography, etc.
 - b. Inquiring mind and investigative persistence resulting in indepth study or studies of issues important to the local high school audience, high school students in general, or society.
 - c. Courageous and responsible handling of sensitive issues—local or societal—despite threat or imposition of censorship.
 - d. Variety of journalistic experiences, each handled in a quality manner—newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, etc.
 - e. Sustained and commendable work with community media.
- At least one issue of your newspaper or magazine or photocopies of relevant spreads from your yearbook (not the entire book) should be enclosed so the judges can see the context of your work. Audio and/or video tapes should accompany an entry that focuses on broadcast work. They should be cued up to the work the judges should view or hear, and should have the entrant's name on the tape case.
- Photocopies of letters, clippings and art are acceptable; however, original prints of photographs should accompany entries based on published pictures.

If you want your portfolio returned, please enclose a self-addressed, padded envelope large enough to hold the entry and bearing enough postage to cover the cost of mailing. The GSSPA and NJPF are not responsible for portfolios not accompanied by return envelopes nor for portfolios lost in transit whether by person or by mail.

Checklist

- The official entry form.
- A self-analytical evaluation of your “journalistic life,” using your most creative form.
- An action photo of you doing something journalistic—interviewing someone, taking a photograph, designing a page, doing a broadcast standup or talking to your staff.
- Have participated in high school journalism for at least two years.
- An official copy of your transcript.
- Three or four letters of recommendation from your adviser, other teachers who know your leadership and journalistic abilities, and practitioners with whom you have worked. A letter from the principal is desirable, but not absolutely necessary.
- Samples of your work carefully selected to show your quality and diversity of reporting, writing, photography, design, etc.
- A self-addressed, padded, stamped envelope large enough to hold your portfolio, if you want it returned.

Bob Stevens Memorial Scholarship Entry Form

Nominee Information

Nominee's Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent(s) or Guardian(s) Name: _____

How long have you been involved in journalism? _____

Publication Name	Position	From	To
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Has any of your work been cited by the media? Yes
(If yes, please use separate sheet to explain)

What aspect of journalism and/or mass communication is your career goal? _____

List the colleges which you are considering attending in order of preference. If you have definitely decided which one you will attend, list only that college.

- _____ Accepted
- _____ Accepted
- _____ Accepted

School Information

School: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____ School Phone: _____

Adviser's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Hometown Media

Name of Newspaper: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____